

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

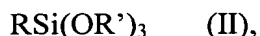
**Listing of Claims**

1-24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) A composition comprising a photoinitiator and a silicic acid polycondensate, wherein the silicic acid polycondensate is produced by a process comprising condensing one or more organically modified silanediols of the general formula I



with one or more organically modified silanes of the general formula II



wherein said condensing is performed without adding water, wherein said silanediols of the general formula I to said silanes of the general formula II is 1:1, wherein up to 90 mole percent of said silane of the general formula II is optionally replaced by one or more co-condensable compounds selected from the group consisting of boron compounds, aluminum compounds, silicon compounds, germanium compounds, titanium compounds and zirconium compounds, and wherein

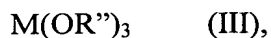
Ar is a radical comprising 6 to 20 carbon atoms and one or more aromatic groups,

R is an organic radical comprising 2 to 15 carbon atoms and one or more epoxy groups or one or more C=C double bonds,

R' is methyl or ethyl,

wherein said photoinitiator is present in said composition in a quantity effective for photochemical curing via UV.

26. (New) The composition of claim 25, wherein said one or more co-condensable compounds comprise compounds of the general formula III,

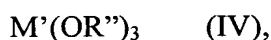


wherein M is boron or aluminum, R'' is an alkyl radical comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and wherein said silanediols of the general formula I, said silanes of the general formula (II) and said compounds of the general formula (III) are present in the composition in a molar ratio (I):(II):(III) = 1:(1-x<sub>III</sub>):2/3x<sub>III</sub>, wherein x<sub>III</sub> is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.9.

27. (New) The composition of claim 26, wherein x<sub>III</sub> is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.8.

28. (New) The composition of claim 26, wherein said compounds of the general formula III are condensation catalysts in said condensing.

29. (New) The composition of claim 25, wherein said one or more co-condensable compounds comprise compounds of the general formula IV



wherein M' is silicon, germanium, titanium or zirconium, R'' is an alkyl radical comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and wherein said silanediols of the general formula I, said silanes of the general formula (II) and said compounds of the general formula (IV) are present in the composition in a molar ratio (I):(II):(IV) = 1:(1-x<sub>IV</sub>):1/2x<sub>IV</sub>, wherein x<sub>IV</sub> is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.9.

30. (New) The composition of claim 29, wherein x<sub>IV</sub> is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.8.

31. (New) The composition of claim 29, wherein said compounds of the general formula IV are condensation catalysts in said condensing.

32. (New) The composition of claim 25, wherein said one or more co-condensable compounds comprise compounds of the general formula V:



wherein

$R_1$  is methyl or ethyl;

$R_1$  is selected from a group consisting of  $CF_3-(CF_2)_n-C_2H_4$ ;  $R_2HN-(CH_2)_3-$ ;  $C_2H_4-NHR_2$ ;  $H_2N-C_2H_4-NH-CH_2-C_6H_4-C_2H_4$ ; substituted and unsubstituted alkyl comprising 1 to 8 carbon atoms; and substituted and unsubstituted phenyl, tolyl and naphthyl, wherein  $n$  is an interger from 0 to 7, wherein  $R_2$  is H,  $CH_3$  or  $C_2H_5$ , wherein  $R_1$  optionally comprises one or more SH groups, one or more  $N(R^*)_2$  groups or a combination thereof, wherein  $R^*$  is hydrogen or alkyl,

and wherein said silanediols of the general formula (I), said silanes of the general formula (II) and said compounds of the general formula (V) are present in the composition in a molar ratio (I):(II):(V) = 1:(1- $x_v$ ):( $x_v$ ), wherein  $x_v$  is more than 0 and less or equal than 0.9.

33. (New) The composition of claim 32, wherein said compounds of the general formula V are condensation catalysts in said condensing.

34. (New) The composition of claim 32, wherein  $x_v$  is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.8.

35. (New) The composition of claim 32, wherein  $R_1$  of the general formula V comprises one more SH groups, one or more  $N(R^*)_2$  groups or a combination thereof, wherein  $R^*$  is hydrogen or alkyl.

36. (New) The composition of claim 25, wherein said condensing is carried out in the presence of a condensation catalyst, wherein the condensation catalyst is triethylamine,  $NH_4F$  or alkaline earth hydroxide.

37. (New) The composition of claim 25, wherein Ar of said organically modified silanediols of the general formula I is a substituted aromatic group.

38. (New) The composition of claim 25, wherein Ar of said organically modified silanediols of the general formula I is a phenyl, naphthyl or styryl group.

39. (New) The composition of claim 25, wherein R of said silanes of the general formula II comprises one or more acryl groups or one or more metacryl groups.

40. (New) The composition of claim 25, wherein said one or more double bonds of said radical R of said silanes of the general formula II are one or more double bonds of an acryl or a methacryl group.

41. (New) A material comprising the composition of claim 25, wherein said material is photostructurable in layers of a thickness of 1 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

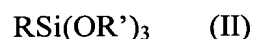
42. (New) The material of claim 41, wherein said material is stable in storage.

43. (New) The material of claim 41, wherein said material is NIR permeable.

44. (New) A method for producing photocurable silicic acid polycondensates, comprising (a) condensing one or more organically modified silanediols of the general formula I



with one or more organically modified silanes of the general formula II



in the presence of a base without adding water, wherein a molar ratio of said silanediols of the general formula I to said silanes of the general formula II is 1:1, wherein up to 90 mole percent of said silane of the general formula II is optionally replaced by one or more co-condensable compounds selected from the group consisting of boron compounds, aluminum compounds, silicon compounds, germanium compounds, titanium compounds and zirconium compounds, and wherein

Ar is a radical comprising 6 to 20 carbon atoms and one or more aromatic groups,

R is an organic radical comprising 2 to 15 carbon atoms and one or more epoxy groups or one or more C=C double bonds,

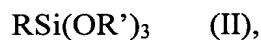
R' is methyl or ethyl; and

(b) adding a photoinitiator.

45. (New) A sililic acid polycondensate produced by condensing one or more organically modified silanediols of the general formula I



with one or more organically modified silanes of the general formula II



wherein said condensing is performed without adding water, wherein said silanediols of the general formula I to said silanes of the general formula II is 1:1, wherein up to 90 mole percent of said silane of the general formula II is optionally replaced by one or more co-condensable compounds selected from the group consisting of boron compounds, aluminum compounds, silicon compounds, germanium compounds, titanium compounds and zirconium compounds, and wherein

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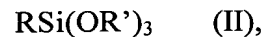
R' is methyl or ethyl.

46. (New) A material comprising the sililic acid polycondensate of claim 45, wherein said material is photostucturable in layers of a thickness of 1 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

47. (New) A method for producing sililic acid polycondensates, comprising condensing one or more organically modified silanediols of the general formula I



with one or more organically modified silanes of the general formula II



wherein said condensing is performed without adding water, wherein said silanediols of the general formula I to said silanes of the general formula II is 1:1, wherein up to 90 mole percent of said silane of the general formula II is optionally replaced by one or more co-condensable compounds selected from the group consisting of boron compounds, aluminum

compounds, silicon compounds, germanium compounds, titanium compounds and zirconium compounds, and wherein

Ar is a radical comprising 6 to 20 carbon atoms and one or more aromatic groups,

R is an organic radical comprising 2 to 15 carbon atoms and one or more epoxy groups or one or more C=C double bonds,

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